



Stream Team Times Fall 2001

Stream Team Times is distributed by the Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to all schools participating in the Stream Teams Program. Stream Teams is a cooperative program between the DEP, Montgomery County Public Schools, and private schools. This news brief contains information on Montgomery County's watersheds, stream quality, and identifies opportunities to get involved in your local watershed.

Please let us know how we are doing, if there is something you would like to include in an issue, or what we can do to make the *Times* better. Contact us at: 240.777.7714 or dd@asdkdep.com



askDEP.com

Sponsor a Seed Collection in Your Neighborhood:

Growing Native on October 20-21, 2001 with the Potomac Conservancy and others. The aim is to increase the diversity of native tree stock for ecological stream restoration projects. By collecting acorns and other seeds, you will contribute to a dwindling supply at local nurseries. The collected seeds will be planted and ready to transplant in three years, providing more healthy streamside forest buffers, and improving water quality and wildlife habitat. All materials and technical training will be provided, but locations and participants must register by early September with Christine Rodick at 703.276.2777 x208, or trees@potomac.org.

**Lower Rock Creek
Watershed Stream Walk on
Saturday, September 8,
2001** from 9:00 a.m. until mid-day. DEP will review various restoration projects and answer questions about each area. Join the team for one section, or the whole stretch. Contact Scott Randall at 240.777.7712 or scott.randall@co.mo.md.us

**Anacostia Port Towns
Paddlesport Regatta on
Saturday, September 8, 2001
from 8:00 a.m. to 1 p.m.** - Your entry \$15.00 fee will help to restore one of the most endangered rivers in the USA. Remember that Anacostia River headwaters begin in Montgomery

County. Schools located in Paint Branch, Little Paint Branch, the Northwest Branch or Sligo Creek areas are in this drainage area. It features more than 20 events for scullers, canoers, kayakers. For more information contact the Anacostia Watershed Society, email Robert@anacostia.org, tel. 301.699.6204, web www.anacostiaws.org

Volunteers Sought for Teaching Environmental Awareness in Maryland

(TEAM) - The Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is seeking dedicated adults to become Teaching Environmental Awareness in Maryland (TEAM) volunteers for the upcoming school year. TEAM volunteers deliver quality hands-on classroom programs on Bay issues to elementary and middle schools. DNR provides a comprehensive, hands-on training on Bay issues starting September 18th on Maryland's western shore and September 20th on the eastern shore. Training is one day a week over a month. Over the course of the training, volunteers will be prepared to enter classrooms with a partner and provide students with a hands-on presentation on the following topics the Chesapeake Bay Watershed, Maryland Streams, Horseshoe Crabs and Oysters. Volunteers should be out-going with a strong desire to protect the Bay. No prior teaching experience is necessary. Please contact

Matthew Chasse with MD-DNR at (410) 260-8710; or www.dnr.state.md.us/volunteers/teamdnr

Seneca Creek Greenway Trail Project Saturday, September 15, 2001 from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. – The Potomac Conservancy seeks volunteers to build a hiker/equestrian trail in Montgomery County (pre-register to obtain directions). Please bring gardening tools, drinking water and a sack lunch. Wear gloves, sturdy boots, and clothes that can get wet and/or muddy. For more information or to register call REI customer service at 703.379.9400 or 301.982.9681, or web www.potomac.org

Fall Potomac River Clean Upon Saturday, September 15, 2001 from 9 a.m. until noon - Volunteers are sought for shoreline clean up. Wear boots or shoes that can get wet or muddy. Bring a shovel for dislodging buried tires, drinking water and snacks, and your own form of river transport (canoes, kayaks, rowboats, motorboats all welcome). The Conservancy will provide gloves and trash bags. To participate contact Matt Berres at 703.276.2777 ext 203 or riverrat@potomac.org, or web www.potomac.org.

National Public Lands Day fall on Saturday, September 29, 2001 - Join the Potomac Conservancy for a number of

projects to clean up and restore the C&O Canal National Historical Park. To participate contact the Conservancy at 703.276.2777, or web www.potomac.org.

Conservation Walk at the Potomac River, Blockhouse Point on Saturday September 29th from 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon. This is a leisurely 3 mile stroll through one of Montgomery County's newest forest parks in Potomac. Call Ron LaCoss, 301.946.1106 before 9 p.m. for information and directions. This walk is sponsored by the [Sierra Club](#), visit their website www.mwrop.org for listing of many more hikes.

The Potomac Conservancy Seeks Volunteer **River Photographers** with photography skills to help them compile a comprehensive photo baseline of the Potomac shoreline and its special places. Images will be used on their new website www.potomac.org, for a slide show, and in other promotional materials. If you have photos to share or would like to help them build a collection of river images contact Jen Schill at 703.276.2777 x 201 or schill@potomac.org.

The Conservancy also seeks **Boaters To Patrol Potomac Banks**. They are looking for paddlers with their own

boats, to "adopt" identified sections of river and commit to regular patrols to identify pollution, illegal dumping, fish kills, tree cutting or other development activity that might threaten the health of the Potomac River. To participate, contact Matt Berres 703.276.2777 ext. 203 or berres@potomac.org.

Learn to Identify Macroinvertebrates on Saturday, September 29th, 2001 – with the Audubon Naturalist Society (ANS) as they hold several FREE workshops this Fall focusing on macroinvertebrates as important indicators of the health of a stream system. Similar to the workshops listed above, participants will learn how to identify aquatic insects to the level of taxonomic order (e.g., *Plecoptera* or stoneflies). The workshop will be held over several dates but **registration is mandatory** by calling ANS directly at 301-652-9188 x14, or see their website for much more information www.audubonnaturalist.org/waterqua.htm

Call for High School Online Presenters (December 5, 2001) - The theme for the 11th Annual High School Environmental Action Conference (The Impact Of The Growing Population Of Planet Earth) is human population growth, focusing on the environmental impacts of the Earth's 6 billion

inhabitants. Presenters and exhibitors are currently being sought to address the issues surrounding population growth and students are encouraged to participate. Example issues include sustainable living, loss of habitat, and the quality and quantity of the natural resources upon which we rely. To submit a presentation online contact Stephanie Kane at 715-346-4320 or Stephanie.H.Kane@uwsp.edu, or visit:

<http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/wcee/wcee/conference/conference.htm>

Geography Action! Rivers 2001 - Geography Action! is an annual conservation and awareness program, sponsored by the National Geographic Society, designed to educate and excite people about our natural, cultural, and historic treasures. This year's theme is Rivers, and includes online resources for K-12 educators and students. <http://www.nationalgeographic.com/education/geographyaction/ga17.html>

What's Up With Our Nation's Waters? - Do you know what percentage of our nation's waters are clean, what pollutes the waters that aren't clean, and what you can do to help? EPA has produced a 24-page booklet, designed primarily for children aged 10 to 15, that presents key findings of the National Water Quality Inventory in an easy-to-read

format. The booklet includes projects for school or for fun, a water quiz, a glossary, and a list of resources for more information. What's Up With Our Nation's Waters? can be viewed at <http://www.epa.gov/owow/monitoring/nationswaters/waters.pdf> (pdf, 1.8MB). It is also available in hard copy from EPA's National Service Center for Environmental Publications at 1-800-490-9198; please include the publication number when ordering: EPA 841-F-00-005.

Mark Your Calendars Now for the 17th Annual Maryland Association for Environmental and Outdoor Education's (MAEOE) Conference. This year's conference will be held in Ocean City, Maryland on February 1st - 3rd, 2002. The MAEOE Annual Conference is one of the region's premier education events, drawing teachers, naturalists, conservation and park managers, and natural resource professionals to learn and share ideas, information, and inspiration in their field of environmental and outdoor education. Contact Gia Marie Ristvey at 410.822.3832 or ristvey@intercom.net.

Plan Now for Community Service day on Saturday October 27th, 2001 - Contact the Montgomery County Volunteer Center at www.co.mo.md.us/services/volunteer/ssl.htm, or 240-777-

2600 to list your school's activity with the Center. If you prefer to join an existing activity, there are *many* to choose from (the following list of environmental projects is just a sampling). Be sure to contact either DEP or the Volunteer Center to determine if the activity qualifies for SSL credits.

- Adopt-A-Trail/Trail Maintainer-Seneca Creek State Park Gaithersburg
- Clean Up Streams-Anacostia Watershed Society
- Environmental Restoration-Anacostia Watershed Society, County-Wide
- Environmental Restoration-Izaak Walton League - Rockville Chapter, Germantown
- Grounds Assistant-Audubon Naturalist Society, Chevy Chase
- Stream Clean-Up, Brookside Gardens, Wheaton

Keep Current on a Variety of Water Quality Issues at the DEP website at www.askdep.com. For a wide variety of other habitat or planting topics, visit the Green Man page at <http://www.co.mo.md.us/services/dep/greenman>.